

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masafumi MATSUNAGA et al.  
Serial No.: Unknown (National Phase of PCT/JP03/03861)  
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Title: LIQUID DISPENSING METHOD AND APPARATUS  
Attorney Docket: NOR-1219

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

September 28, 2004

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the application, please amend the application  
as follows.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which  
begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.